



#111D
4-4-02
PATENT
0032-0254P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroyuki SHIMIZU et al. Conf.: 7526
Appl. No.: 09/530,013 Group: 1623
Filed: April 24, 2000 Examiner: R. Gitomer
For: METHOD FOR INHIBITING THE DEGRADATION
OF NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES COMPRISING
CONTAINERS MADE OF OR COATED WITH
MATERIALS INHIBITING THE ACTIVATION OF
SUBSTANCES DEGRADING THEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

April 1, 2002
(Monday)

Sir:

In connection with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on even date herewith, the period for responding having been extended one (1) month until March 30, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS: ✓

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Four Times Amended) A method for inhibiting the degradation of mammalian natriuretic peptides in a specimen, comprising: